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91203



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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 2 Classical Studies 2025

91203 Examine socio-political life in the classical world

Credits: Six

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Examine socio-political life in the classical world.	Examine, in-depth, socio-political life in the classical world.	Examine, with perception, socio-political life in the classical world.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ONE of the questions in this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (//////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Achievement

TOTAL 04

Page 1

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ONE of the questions below with reference to a **classical civilisation**. This may include, but is not limited to, a city-state, republic, or empire.

You must answer using paragraphs.

QUESTIONS (Choose ONE)

- Explain how a woman's role reflected her status in a classical civilisation.
- In what ways did a socio-political context lead to significant reforms in a classical civilisation?
- How did public events strengthen identity in a classical civilisation?
- Explain how a conflict in a classical civilisation impacted the balance of power.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Athens

PLANNING

ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 750–800 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with primary-source evidence.

B *I* U     

The Second Persian Invasion in 480BC impacted the balance in power between Athens and the other Greeks through three major factors: The Delian League, the rise of the Athenian Empire, and the Golden Age of Athens. These three factors contributed to the rise in power for Athens and impacted its balance between other city-states in Ancient Greece.

The first example of how the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power was the Delian League. The Delian League

ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 750–800 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with primary-source evidence.

B I U ☰ ▾ ☰ ▾ ↶ ↷ Ⓞ

The Second Persian Invasion in 480BC impacted the balance in power between Athens and the other Greeks through three major factors: The Delian League, the rise of the Athenian Empire, and the Golden Age of Athens. These three factors contributed to the rise in power for Athens and impacted its balance between other city-states in Ancient Greece.

The first example of how the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power was the Delian League. The Delian League began in 478BC as a military alliance between Greek city-states for future protection against any further threats from the Persians. Members of the League would make contributions to better the military status for future attacks. These contributions were things like ships or money. Thucydides accounts that the League amounted to 460 talents in the first year of the League which doubled the overall income of Athens. Thucydides tells us that the Spartans did not want to join the Delian League because they viewed Athens as "*perfectly capable*" of leading, but other Greeks were "*glad*" to see Athens take charge because of their victory at the sea battle of Salamis. The Delian League impacted the balance of power between other city-states in Greece because it showed that Athens was finally stepping up and other Greeks viewed Athens as "*Hegemon*" (military leader) which showed the beginning of the imbalance in power as others were viewing them as the leaders instead of equals.

The second example of how the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power was the rise of the Athenian Empire. The rise of the Athenian Empire is a result of the Delian League. After the Athenians saw that the threat from the Persians wasn't returning, what once was a military alliance evolved into an Athenian imperial power. Athens had started to take control over the members of the Delian League and started to benefit themselves. Athens began to punish any member who attempted to leave the League. For example Naxos and Thasos. Aristophanes accounts that Athens were "tyrants over what once were allies" this ultimately shows that Athens had taken full control over the other members of the League and had forced and stuck them into the control of the Athenians, serving punishment if they wanted to leave. This reveals the imbalance in power because it shows Athens pushed themselves to the top instead of sharing equal power with other Greeks how it was originally meant to be an alliance between each other.

The third example of how the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power was the Golden Age of Athens. The Golden Age began in 460 BC and ended in 430 BC. The money from the Delian League and the treasury from Delos moved to Athens in 454 BC. This era saw flourishing intellectual life and was a time to be alive in Athens. Playwrights like Sophocles and Euripides and philosophers like Socrates and Plato worked in Athens at this time so there was a copious amount of art. The money from the Delian League was able to fund Pericles Building Program and restore the Acropolis, buildings like the Parthenon, the Erechtheion, and the Long Walls were built as well. During this time Pericles implemented Cleisthenes, who "relieved the city of a large number of idlers and agitators, raised the standards of the poorest classes, and introduced garrisons among the allies" according to Plutarch. This resulted in a better time for Athens, after the Second Invasion, Athens were able to benefit themselves. This time reflected "everlasting glory to the whole city" and Athens were able to thrive. This shows how the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power because Athens were thriving during this time, with the money and treasury from the Delian League which should have been shared throughout Greece to their fellow members.

Overall, the Second Persian Invasion impacted the balance in power between Athens and the other Greeks through the Delian League, the rise of the Athenian Empire, and the Golden Age of Athens. Three major factors that contributed to the boost in Athens' overall status and well being and reflected how other Greeks believed in Athens to take charge and lead them to greatness but instead took for themselves and took advantage of the things given to them to help fight off the Persians.

720 WORDS / 800 RECOMMENDED

Achievement

Subject: Classical Studies

Standard: 91203

Total score: 04

Grade score	Marker commentary
A4	The candidate demonstrates a solid understanding of the events following the second Persian invasion. Their response includes an explanation of the corruption of the Delian league by Athens, turning it into their own private empire and bank is sound. Greek terms are used throughout. Quotes have been used to add support to their points, although the evaluation of these points is often shallow. The judgements made at the conclusion of the paragraphs are correct but limited.